

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Ralph S. Shoberg
Serial Number:	unknown
Filing Date:	April 3, 2001
Examiner/Art Group Unit:	unknown
Title:	METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUDITING A TENSION LOAD IN THE THREADED FASTENER

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Att: Box Non-Fee

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified patent application as indicated below:

Please add the following new claims:

14. A method for auditing a tension load of a fastened threaded fastener comprising:
- providing a tightened fastener;
 - applying a torque to the threaded fastener;
 - monitoring the torque;
 - measuring a rate of change of the torque per unit of angle of rotation of the threaded fastener;
 - determining a breakaway point;
 - determining the rate of change of the torque per unit of angle rotation after the breakaway point; and
 - comparing a measured rotation angle against a predetermined